

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT02019	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/CN02/00302	International filing date (day/month/year) 28.Apr 2002(28.04.02)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22.Feb 2002(22.02.02)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC⁷ B41J2/15		
Applicant PRINT-RITE · UNICORN IMAGE PRODUCTS CO.LTD.OF ZHUHAI, et al		
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and /or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>		
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty ,inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2)with regard to novelty ,inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application.</p>		
Date of submission of the demand 28.Apr 2002(28.04.02)	Date of completion of this report 22.Jul 2003(22.7.03)	
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/N02/00302

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:

☒ the international application as originally filed☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the claims:

Nos _____, as originally file

Nos _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

Nos _____, filed with the demand

Nos _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the drawings:

sheets/fig _____, as originally filed

sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand

sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. with regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:☐ the description, pages _____☐ the claims No. _____☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 33(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement:**

Novelty (N)	Claims 3-5,8-12	YES
	Claims 1-2,6-7,13-14	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 8-11	YES
	Claims 3-5,12	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-14	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. The subject-matter of claims 1-2,6-7,13-14 doesn't meet the requirement of Art. 33(2) PCT, since the claimed following features of claim 1,6,13 are disclosed by the document EP1004447A2(SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION, 31.05.00) , i.e. an electronics module of an intelligent ink cartridge is used for storing identification information of the ink cartridge and ink remaining data, said electronics module is a special-purpose micro-controller with embedded EEPROM, and the micro controller is used to control calculation and access operations of ink remaining in the ink cartridge to improve the maximum of ink volume of the ink cartridge for use with the ink-jet printers (see the whole document), and the additional technical features of claims 2,7,14 have also been disclosed by the document EP1004447A2.

2.The dependent claims 3-5,12 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer,would meet the inventive requirements of Art. 33(3) PCT, since the additional features of claims 3-5,12 are only some of several obvious possibilities among which a person skilled in the art would select,according to the circumstances.

3.The solution proposed in claims 8-11 is considered to be novel and inventive, because neither EP1004447A2 nor the other available documents render the program design obvious.

4.The subject-matter of present claims 1-14 is industrially applicable in the field of ink-jet printers.